

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A piezoelectric actuator comprising:
  - a flexible substrate separated by a slit so as to form two separate flexible substrates in a same plane, said two flexible substrates comprising a first flexible substrate and a second flexible substrate that are separated from each other;
    - a first piezoelectric element unit disposed on one of said first separated flexible substrates;
    - a second piezoelectric element unit disposed on another said second separated flexible substrate approximately in parallel with said first piezoelectric element unit such that said first and second piezoelectric element units are separated from each other by the slit; and
    - a coupling portion operable to couple said separated first and second flexible substrates across said the slit and to suppress a wavy resonance phenomenon of said flexible substrate.
2. **(Withdrawn)** A piezoelectric actuator comprising:
  - a flexible substrate separated by a slit;
  - a first piezoelectric element unit disposed on one of said separated flexible substrates;
  - a second piezoelectric element unit disposed on another said separated flexible substrate approximately in parallel with said first piezoelectric element unit; and
  - a coupling portion provided in the longitudinal center of said piezoelectric element unit to couple said separated flexible substrates across said slit.
3. **(Currently amended)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said coupling portion is provided at a position corresponding to an antinode of a primary bending mode of said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit each being fixed in respective at both ends thereof, respectively.

4. **(Previously presented)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said coupling portion is composed of a wiring material provided on said flexible substrate.
5. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said coupling portion is constructed by a plurality of ladder shaped coupling portions.
6. **(Original)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 4, wherein said wiring material is in common use for said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit.
7. **(Currently amended)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said coupling portion is provided across said separated first and second flexible substrates, and the thickness of said coupling portion is larger than the width of said coupling portion.
8. **(Currently amended)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit make a displacement in opposite directions with respect to each other.
9. **(Currently amended)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1, wherein said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit has each have a thin film piezoelectric body, respectively.
10. **(Currently amended)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 9, wherein said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit form a multilayered structure using two thin film piezoelectric element-bodies, each of the bodies comprising of a thin film piezoelectric element covered by a metal coating layer on top and bottom surfaces of the bodies, with an adhesive layer sandwiched between the top and bottom surfaces of the bodies.

11. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising at least:

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the piezoelectric actuator according to claim 1.

12. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2, wherein said coupling portion is composed of a wiring material provided on said flexible substrate.

13. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2, wherein said coupling portion is constructed by a plurality of ladder shaped coupling portions.

14. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2, wherein said coupling portion is provided across separated flexible substrates and the thickness of said coupling portion is larger than the width of said coupling portion.

15. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2, wherein said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit make a displacement in opposite directions each other.

16. **(Withdrawn)** The piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2, wherein said first piezoelectric element unit and said second piezoelectric element unit has thin film piezoelectric body respectively.

17. **(Withdrawn)** A disk drive comprising at least:

- (a) a disk;

- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the piezoelectric actuator according to claim 2.

18. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: ~~at least:~~

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, ~~and~~ said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 3.

19. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: ~~at least:~~

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 4.

20. **(Withdrawn – Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: at least:

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;  $\div$
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 5.

21. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: at least:

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;  $\div$
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 6.

22. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: at least:

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;  $\div$

- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 7.

23. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: ~~at least:~~

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 8.

24. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: ~~at least:~~

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm

perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 9.

25. **(Currently amended)** A disk drive comprising: at least:

- (a) a disk;
- (b) a head slider equipped with a magnetic head;
- (c) a flexure to fix said head slider;
- (d) an arm to be fixed with said flexure;
- (e) a first positioning means to move said arm roughly; and
- (f) a second positioning means to make said head slider fixed on said arm perform a fine displacement,

wherein said second positioning means is composed of an actuator having a piezoelectric element, and said actuator is the being said piezoelectric actuator according to claim 10.